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U. S. Department of Agriculture

THE DIXIE RANGER

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE SOUTHERN REGION

VOLUME 7

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NUMBER 9

IMPRESSIONS

Among the projects tackled early in the big work program which started in 1934 were various cultural operations to bring the national forest timber stands into better shape to grow. There was rapid nursery expansion, for instance -- one which soon resulted in planting 50,000 acres each year. Then, there was the T. S. I. work and later on pruning. In many ways, however, the most important activity which could bring these stands into better growing shape was languishing. I refer, of course, to timber sales. Only through cutting for sale, skillfully managed to improve stands, can they be brought into better productive condition without undue cost.

Naturally such sales could not be rapidly expanded before the region knew what kind of stands it had. Much of the acquired land had not been carefully enough examined to obtain sufficiently accurate information as a basis for management plans. Therefore, it was necessary to collect additional field data before plans could be made for the newly acquired areas. For many of the older areas there already existed management plans, although most of them had not been followed and, in general, cutting budgets were far behind. Even the Ouachita which had maintained a heavy cut for many years was just recovering from the depth of the depression with a low cut of just over a million feet in 1933. So, even in the older areas, radical revisions in plans were necessary to make them realistic and to bring them up to date.

Timber Management tackled this job vigorously. It not only had to make the plans, but it had to train a lot of men to make them and then it had to get the plans put into effect. That meant a lot of push -- and it was well applied. How well is shown by these figures for timber cut by fiscal years since the creation of the region.

1935 - 57 million feet
1936 - 80 " "
1937 - 88 " "
1938 - 89 " "

1939 - 94 million feet
1940 - 154 " "
1941 - 176 " "

Each year shows a substantial increase, but the end is not yet. The present estimated sustained annual yield for the region is about 250 million feet. In addition, some forests have a large amount of dead chestnut, inferior hardwoods and other products upon which no limitation of cut has been placed because the forests are to get rid of them in the shortest possible time. So there is still some way to go and, now, with the excellent lumber market, is a good time to take another step forward.

The progress of the past seven years in timber management is excellent but, naturally, one cannot be satisfied until every forest has every acre under an approved management plan, is practicing good silviculture and is cutting its full timber budget. The first of these objectives, for all practical purposes, has been attained. Plans exist for all areas where important cutting is to be done in the near future, and other areas are covered by policy statements. The second, also, with few exceptions, has been attained. Reasonably good silviculture is being practiced throughout the region. As to the third, the region is over two-thirds of the way there and should be within striking distance in another year.

Timber management plans are never static but, on the contrary must be frequently revised to keep them abreast of the time and changing conditions. Region 8 is blessed with softwoods having the most rapid growth in the world. Its national forests are largely second-growth with many young stands under merchantable size but progressively reaching merchantability. No well managed stands on the better sites can be left much longer than ten years without attention. Cruises soon become obsolete - stand improvement is stage construction, not a permanent job. This means increased cuts at periodic intervals. For this reason, the estimated sustained yield for Region 8 (without additional purchases) will in five years not be 250 million feet, but more than that, and in ten years still more, and so on. It is important, therefore, that the cutting budget be reached soon, so that the region will be prepared for another "hike upward" in sales when revised plans show that more should be cut.

No plan is good unless it is both workable and worked. The timber management plans are believed workable for they represent the best efforts of the forests, the region and the Washington office. Now they must be "worked". That job is primarily the responsibility of the supervisors, the timber management staffmen on the national forests and the rangers. They must expect to be judged as to accomplishments, not only on how they plan, but how well they execute their plans. I repeat -- as far as timber management activities of the region are concerned -- I am well pleased, but not satisfied.

- - - Joseph C. Kircher,
Regional Forester

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WILDLIFE COOPERATION AND FIRE PREVENTION

Wildlife cooperation pays in fire prevention on the Pisgah National Forest.

Four years ago one-fourth of the national forest land on the Mt. Mitchell Ranger District was included in the 25,000-acre Mt. Mitchell Cooperative Game Management Area. Four game protectors employed by the State of North Carolina make up the personnel to patrol the area, keep a watchful eye on its heavy public use and carry the major portion of the work load in administering the regulated hunting and fishing.

Considering all factors, the outstanding accomplishment of the game protectors is their fire prevention work. In the four years the Mt. Mitchell Cooperative Game Management Area has been in existence it has experienced one lightning and two man-caused fires burning a total of four acres. One of these man-caused fires started from the right-of-way clearing operations of a contractor engaged in the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway, the other from smoking. Law enforcement action on both fires was initiated successfully.

In contrast to this fine record is that of the near-by 10,000 acre Mill Creek - Point Lookout section where in the same period 29 man-caused fires burned over 561 acres of national forest and private inside.

- - - G. H. Griswold
Pisgah

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IN MEMORIAM

The tragic death of Howard B. Morse on September 6 when he was struck by a speed boat while swimming at Biloxi, Mississippi, came as a profound shock to the Region.

Mr. Morse, who was a graduate of the old Biltmore Forest School, reported for his first duty with the Service on the Allegheny National Forest in May 1933 as Superintendent of one of the earliest CCC camps. He later transferred to the George Washington National Forest and in 1933 became an inspector of CCC camps in Region 7, a position which he held until coming to Atlanta, when Region 8 was formed in July 1934. He was widely known throughout this Region, as he had been inspecting all regional camps since 1935. He was conscientious and enthusiastic in his work and, from the beginning had an intense interest in enrollee training and welfare.

Mr. Morse's death is not only an official loss to the Forest Service, but a great personal loss to his friends in Regions 7 and 8. We extend our sympathy to his bereaved family and close friends.

THE RANGER'S CLERK

A serious lack of understanding now exists between the field, and the Regional Offices concerning the use of clerks in Rangers' offices. Many men who affectionately have the title "brass hats", have spent their ranger days in offices unsoiled by the least resemblance of paper work. Rangers of "ye olden times" grumbled about annual reports, and would have put you on their black list if you mentioned a weekly, or monthly report, yet unfortunately we now have these reports. Changing times have brought an enormous amount of paper work into existence. All phases of the work now require reports, and apparently a copy of each report for every body - sort of a-chicken-in-every-pot arrangement. Trespass reports are works of art, and if an employee cuts a finger things really happen in a big paper way.

Now this isn't written to incite a red tape revolution as we all know that every effort is being made to reduce paper work to a minimum, yet apparently we all do not know that it is impossible for a ranger to get along satisfactorily without a clerk; nor apparently does every body know that a ranger station now clears as much paper work as a supervisors' office did in 1931.

N. Y. A. clerks, CCC clerks, or W. P. A. clerks are always suggested when we ask for a clerk. The ranger will work hard to train a clerk only to have the clerk get a better job, have his time expire, or just not be worth a darn. Why can't we rake our allotments, and prorate so much from each activity to finance a clerk? There surely must be something we can do about this, as there are many cases where the situation is getting serious. Rangers work night and day to keep up their office work when a less valuable employee could do it more efficiently. I would like to hear from some of the other rangers who are trying to run their districts without clerks. While we are at it lets hear from the "Higher-ups" too. If they have secret methods of handling clerical work they surely should be aired.

- - - R. C. Nicholson,
Chattahoochee

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"FIREARMS NOT PERMITTED....."

But there must have been shooting irons a'plenty when the 13th Field Artillery Brigade rolled into the Pisgah National Forest recently for a two-night encampment.

Recent issues of Asheville papers have carried many colorful stories and pictorial features about the full mechanized army brigade invading the western North Carolina mountains for the first time in history. According to reports, the 5,200 men, 550 trucks, howitzers and other arms and equipment formed a 50-mile parade witnessed by tens of thousands of persons, many of them seeing such a sight for the first time.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Supervisors, who have had recent changes in home addresses and telephone numbers, should advise the Regional Office so that records may be brought up to date.

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NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR R-7

Region 7 will be transferred from Washington, D. C., to Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, as part of the Department of Agriculture's program of further decentralization to relieve congestion in the national capital.

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LIBRARY LINES

CONSERVATION OF AMERICAN RESOURCES, by Chas. N. Elliott. Turner E. Smith & co., Atlanta, 1940. 672 p., illus. \$1.80.

LUMBER ACCOUNTS, by Walter Mucklow and associates. American institute pub. co., N. Y., 1936. 458 p., illus. \$4.00.

NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE CONFERENCE, MEMPHIS, TENN., Feb. 1941.

TRANSACTIONS... American wildlife institute, 1941. 382 p., illus. \$1.00.

Partial contents; Resolution proposed for creation of Discovery Forest; Conservation education and publicity, by C. E. Randall; Defense and conservation; Responsibilities and limitations in removing game surpluses on national forest areas, by H. L. Shantz.

STATISTICAL METHODS APPLIED TO EXPERIMENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND BIOLOGY, by G. W. Snedecor. 3rd ed. Iowa state college press, Ames, 1940. 422 p., illus. A book directed to the needs of the novice in statistical methods.

TWELVE WAYS TO BUILD A VOCABULARY, by Archibald Hart. Dutton, 1939. 128p., \$1.25. Partial contents: Weary words; synonyms; definitions; word derivation; fun with the dictionary; slang and idiom.

1941 YEARBOOK, PARK AND RECREATION PROGRESS. Issued by National park service. Govt. print. off., 1941. 92 p., illus. 40¢. Partial contents: Drainage basin planning; Wilderness values, by Aldo Leopold; Parks and waysides as features of roadside development; List of State park administrative agencies; Current bibliography.

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It is with the deepest regret that the DIXIE RANGER reports the death of Mrs. Floyd M. Cossitt, which occurred on September 15. In addition to her husband, who is attached to the Division of Timber Management, she is survived by three children. The heartfelt sympathy of the entire Region is with Mr. Cossitt and the family at this time.

PLEASE ECONOMIZE.

The Fourth Assistant Postmaster General has written the Secretary of Agriculture as follows:

"The appropriations authorized by the Congress for the operation of, and for furniture for activities in, post office buildings under the administration of this Department for the fiscal year 1942, are limited and it is incumbent upon us to exercise strict economy in those items in order to avoid the creation of a deficiency during the current fiscal year.

"With this in view we have given our postmasters implicit instructions concerning the use of artificial lighting; the use of supplies and in the submission of requests for furniture and equipment.

"As the field service of the Agriculture Department is one of our largest tenants, we solicit your assistance to the end that you please ask your field officers to cooperate with postmasters in the economical use and operation of their quarters."

The Secretary has advised the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General that the Department would cooperate. Please be governed accordingly.

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Arnold Mallis, entomologist on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California, has originated a clever trap for silverfish, according to "Science news letter" for September 6, 1941. The trap is also effective in ridding closets and basements of cloth-and paper-devouring gray insect pests.

A plain one-ounce ointment jar is given an outer jacket of adhesive tape, which enables the insects to get a foothold to climb up. A teaspoonful of white flour is placed inside the jar. The insects climb up eagerly to taste their favorite food, and are trapped inside the glass jar because they are not able to climb the slippery inside walls.

The magazine article states that silverfish live and propagate from 7 to 8 years, but it is easy to clean out an infestation with the flour bait trap, which seems more effective in control than poisons and fumes.

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Announcement has just been received of the appointment of Dr. Richard W. Nelson as chief of the Forest Service's division of forest economics, effective immediately.

BOWLING BOMBASTS

Wild, wobbly, but willing, the Forest Service Regional Office's bowling team once again launches another bowling bonanza.

Toppling the timber erroneously, erratically, but effectively, Messrs. McCleskey, Pidgeon, Stevens, Heffner and the writer initiated the Swift and Company team with a two game win in the Dixie League's opener on September 12 at Blick's Bowling Center.

The Forest Service aggregation aggravates the alleys each Friday at 7:30 P. M. and a call for all rooters is hereby extended. Anyone interested in bowling with the team is urged to contact ye scribe in room 811.

- - H. C. CAIN
Engineering

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"MARCH ON"

Word has been received in the Regional Office that Lewis R. Grosenbaugh, Assistant Forester on the Ozark has been enlisted in the Naval Reserve for work leading up to commission as an ensign in active duty with the Navy. According to our report Mr. Grosenbaugh will shortly enter Northwestern University Naval Training Center.

A recent news item has been received concerning Major Carl T. Jones, former assistant chief of the TVA CCC unit, who resigned about a year ago to join his National Guard regiment, Alabama Engineers. Major Jones in command of a battalion left on August 2 for Alaska, with the band playing "Dixie" all the way to the railroad. To further represent the South, suh, Major Jones reports that his top sergeant is "Pinky" Pinkston, former clerk with the CCC unit of TVA.

Edward W. Simpson, home on furlough for a few days, recently dropped in to say "hello" to his friends in the Regional Office. He has been transferred from Camp Blanding to Fort Moultrie, S. C.

Dennis Ryan of Maintenance, and now stationed at Camp Stuart also called on his Regional Office friends recently. His appearance would indicate that Army life agrees with him.

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ARTICLE AVAILABLE ON TURPENTINE FARMING

The Division of State and Private Forestry has issued an article on "Turpentine Farming". Originally it was given as a lecture on naval stores at a training course for project foresters employed under the Norris-Doxey Act. Later District Supervisor L. E. House briefed this lecture into a well-rounded article on gum naval stores.

The article covers all phases of naval stores work, such as the type of timber to be turpentine, installation of cups and gutters, recommended working practices, prices for labor, leases, and gum grading and marketing of gum. A section explaining the Commodity Credit Corporation loan program and prices is included.

Anyone interested in naval stores should have a copy of this article for reference. Copies may be secured by writing the Regional Office.

- - Joseph Yensco
Regional Office

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NEW STATE FORESTER FOR MISSISSIPPI

Information has been received of the appointment of Mr. Albert A. Legett as State Forester of Mississippi, succeeding A. K. Dexter who has been acting State Forester since Mr. Merrill's resignation on July 31.

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BOX OFFICE FLASH

Under a contract signed by the Department, Paramount Pictures, Inc. has produced and distributed a one-reel version of the Forest Service motion picture "The Forest Ranger". The short which is entitled "Guardians of the Wilds" has been released as one of Paramount's regular Paragraphic Series and is estimated to total some 300 showings in Regions 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 between September 1, and November 23. The schedule of play dates in R-8 was forwarded to the field as soon as it was received, and additional bookings will be passed on to you as soon as they are received here. Paramount's short should serve to arouse interest in and understanding of the Forest Service and should serve as a good build-up for Paramount's feature technicolor picture "The Forest Ranger".

R-8 has an especial interest in "Guardians of the Wild" wherein our own Ranger R. V. Miles, Jr. plays the lead, as it turns out, in a commercial motion picture. In connection with this, the Regional Office is in receipt of copy of a note from Mr. Duthie of the Washington office to Ranger Miles, in which he expresses himself thusly: "I have had in mind for some time to send you my congratulations on your performance in the picture. It is a good job of acting and the film is going to be well received when we are able to release our version next spring. See "Guardians of the Wilds", if you can." To Ranger Miles, we, too, say congratulations! and to the rest of you we repeat Mr. Duthie's recommendation to see "Guardians of the Wilds", if you can.

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A process by which Southern gum tree pulp may be substituted for cotton linters in making smokeless powder, and later paper, plastics and other materials has been announced.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Probational appointment has been effected for Perry S. Broom as Assistant Messenger in the Regional Division of Operation.

Junior Forester Robert F. Irwin has been transferred from the Unaka District of the Cherokee to the Florida where he is assigned as assistant to the Ranger on the Ocala District.

Transfer has been effected for Junior Forester Orrie W. Hanson from the Uharie District of the Pisgah to the Blue Ridge District of the Chattahoochee where he will function as assistant to the District Ranger.

Loren J. Clark, clerk in the Ozark supervisor's office, has been transferred to the Regional Division of Fiscal Control.

Junior Forester Forester Stuart F. Clark has been transferred from the Pisgah to the Tallulah District of the Chattahoochee where he is assigned as assistant to the District Forest Ranger.

Junior Civil Engineer Kenneth F. Reamey of the Ouachita has been transferred to the Nantahala where he is engaged in the construction of CCC projects.

Junior Forester Robert D. Williams has been transferred from the Appalachian Station to the Davy Crockett of the Texas where he will function as assistant District Forest Ranger.

William B. Collins, abstractor on the Arnichee District of the Chattahoochee, has resigned to enter the private practice of law.

Mrs. Magenta S. Kemp of the Regional Division of Recreation and Lands has been transferred to the Uharie District of the Pisgah, where she is assigned to duty in connection with the acquisition of lands.

THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Joseph C. Kircher has returned from a ten day trip to the Washington Office.

The film "Ocala" which was made on the Ocala National Forest and which shows many of the interesting and beautiful areas on that forest has been used with the Florida Exhibit at Atlantic City during the summer. The film has been viewed by thousands of visitors at the famous resort and has advertised the Ocala National Forest all over the country.

The American Turpentine Farmers Association Cooperative held an open meeting for all gum naval stores producers on

September 23, Jacksonville, Fla. Regional Forester Kircher, Associate Regional Forester Stabler, Assistant Regional Forester Evans and his staff assistant Joseph Yensco attended this meeting.

It is regretted that the Ouachita write-up of the picnic party at Charlton Campground for Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Busch was received too late for the August issue. The occasion was to honor Mr. and Mrs. Busch prior to their departure for Georgetown, S. C., where Mr. Busch has accepted a position with the Southern Kraft Corporation. Items from other forests also were received too late to be used.

When Regional Forester Kircher on July 26 made formal announcement of the resignation of his secretary, Miss Anne D. Fiorentino, it was not revealed that Anne was giving up this position to take on a life-time assistantship to Forester Sam Beichler in the Division of State and Private Forestry.

Congratulations, and all good wishes for luck and happiness, Mr. and Mrs. Beichler!

Miss Mary Hamme, who left us last year to go to the Washington Office, takes over again as Mr. Kircher's secretary. Mary is coming bak to many friends in the Regional Office and throughout the Region who welcome her back into the family circle.

The many friends of Bill Haverfield of the Section of Maintenance, will be interested to learn that he has been given a scholarship by the Colonial Hills Baptist Church of East Point to the Columbia Bible College, Columbia, S. C., where he is already enrolled. The best of luck to you, Bill.

The Dixie Ranger ventures to congratulate the Washington Office on its new version of the Service Bulletin, streamlined from editorial policy to make-up. The editors give as their opinion that it is material from the Field which should make up the bulk of a Service Bulletin. If Region 8 personnel have important news or views, please forward them through Regional Office, Section of Information and Education. The Region should do its share to make the Bulletin representative of the whole Service.

Recent Office visitors were:

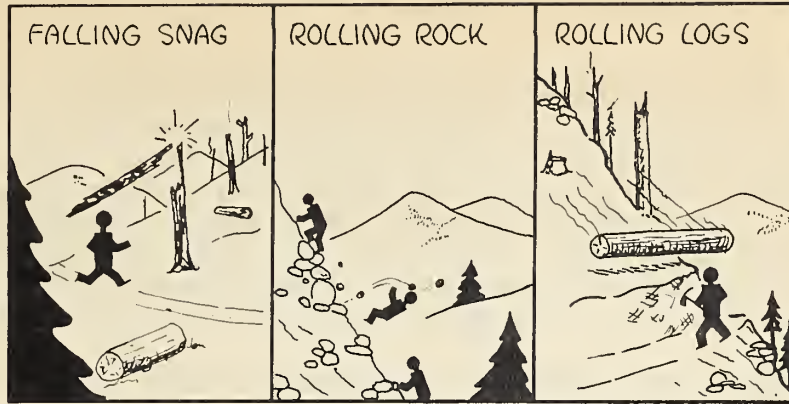
E. L. Demmon, John J. Keetch and George M. Jemison of the Appalachian Station; Supervisor Redding, Assistant Supervisor McKinely and Clint Johnson of the Chattahoochee, Supervisor Bosworth of the Pisgah, Wm. R. Silcox, Assistant Supervisor, Puerto Rico, Supervisor Miller of Texas, Congressman A. Leonard Allen of Louisiana, H. C. Carruth, Extension Service, Athens, Ga., also J. P. Nicholson of Athens; Mr. Ralph A. Shull from Tropical Experiment Station, Jay Ward, Washington, Assistant State Forester Schaeffer of South Carolina; Messrs. Willis M. Baker, E. G. Wieseuegel, George T. Olson and I. Burroughs, TVA. Norris, Tenn., Fred Lang, State Forester of Arkansas, J. R. Nevers, District Supervisor, Pensacola, L. E. House, Jacksonville, Fla. and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Lee. Mr. Lee is assistant clerk in the Tallahassee Office, Florida National Forests.

SAFETY POSTERS

Region One has come through with a very attractive little poster designed to highlight some of the more common hazards of fire fighting. For the attached copy, thanks are due to Region One. Fire season is close on us in Region Eight, and a thought for safety on the fire line seems very appropriate at this time.

You can make effective use of the poster by detaching it and posting it where it will do the most good - the body of trucks transporting fire fighters, in fire camps, or in places where local key men can see it, and think a bit about safety. You might pin it on the bulletin board, although most boards are pretty crowded already. The little men tell quite a tale with their actions and conversations, and the safety hints below each picture are worth remembering and practicing for safety's sake. If additional copies are desired they may be had upon request to the Regional Office.

DON'T LET THESE THINGS HAPPEN TO YOU



Be Alert!

Think of the man below. Watch, be sure, move fast.



Watch Your Step! Give your partner room. Hit where you look.



Report injuries to your foreman.

Don't stand in hot ashes.

Stay with your leader.



PRACTICE SAFETY FIRST - THANKS

1. The fire boss on every fire has full authority over the entire organization. He aims at getting control of the fire as quickly as possible with full safety to all men. He gives his orders through and makes plans for action with the designated assisting officers. To carry out the plan, with safety and success for all men on the fire, requires that you follow the instructions of your designated leader, strawboss or foreman. Men who do not follow instructions are endangering the work and lives of their fellows.

2. Eat, sleep, walk and work with your crew. Stay with your foreman.

3. Special salt pills are provided to make up for loss through sweat. The water boy or first-aid man will provide you with six of these pills per day. Take no more than one per hour or eight per day.

4. All fire tools have two ends. One is the brain end - the other the cutting end. Poor use of the first is always responsible for injuries by the second.

5. Injuries don't "just happen". Someone causes them.

6. "I'm sorry", is mighty poor pay for the injury or death of your fellow worker.

7. "I forgot" just won't cure an infection or straighten broken bones.

8. Bundles dropped from an airplane are dangerous. Stay away from the dropping spot. Never stay nearer than 300 feet from the target.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Forest Service
Atlanta, Georgia

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